The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.



FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2020.

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Friday, March 27, 2020.

Met according to adjournment at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mr. Donato of Medford in the Chair (having been appointed by the Speaker, under authority conferred by Rule 5, to perform the duties of the Chair).

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Donato), the members and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of allegiance.

Message from the Governor.

A message from His Excellency the Governor recommending legislation relative to facilitating the delay of the income tax filing deadline (House, No. 4593), was filed this day in the office of the Clerk.

COVID-19,—income tax filing.

The message was read; and it was referred, on motion of Mr. Michlewitz of Boston, with the accompanying draft of a bill, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Petitions.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Ms. Decker of Cambridge, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Marjorie C. Decker and others relative to relief payments for recipients of the transitional aid to families with dependent children and emergency aid to the elderly, disabled and children programs within the Department of Transitional Assistance.

Transitional assistance,—relief payments.

By Representatives Mark of Peru and Sabadosa of Northampton, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Paul W. Mark, Lindsay N. Sabadosa and others relative to absentee voting for the 2020 state primary and general elections.

Absentee voting.

By the same members, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Paul W. Mark, Lindsay N. Sabadosa and others for legislation to expand unemployment insurance benefits to certain employees due to the COVID-19 emergency declaration.

COVID-19,—unemployment insurance.

By Representatives Sabadosa of Northampton and Mark of Peru, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Lindsay N. Sabadosa, Paul W. Mark and others for legislation to appropriate funds to the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency for emergency funding for certain homeless services.

Homeless services,—emergency funding.

Severally, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Papers from the Senate.

A Bill ensuring access to qualified health professionals (Senate, No. 2615) (on a part of House bill No. 4398), passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Joint Rule 1E, to the committee on Health Care Financing.

Nurses and pharmacists,—practice scope.

A Bill relative to the terms for members of the zoning board of appeals of the city of Somerville (Senate, No. 2369) (on a petition) [Local Approval Received],

Somerville,—zoning board of appeals.

passed to be engrossed by the Senate, was read; and it was referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Galvin of Canton, for the committee on Rules and the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that Joint Rule 12 be suspended on the following petitions:

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Angelo M. Scaccia for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Jennifer Logan, an employee of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner; and

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Aaron Vega for legislation to establish a sick leave bank for Marta Romero, an employee of the Department of Disability Services; Severally to the committee on Public Service.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Scaccia of Boston, the reports were considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 then was suspended, in each instance. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Jennifer Logan, sick leave.

Marta Romero, sick leave.

At two minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Vieira of Falmouth (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House recessed subject to the call of the Chair; and at one minute after three o'clock P.M. the House was called to order with Mr. Donato in the Chair.

Recess.

Mr. Michlewtiz of Boston, for the committee on Ways and Means, on House, No. 4586, reported, in part, a Bill to address challenges faced by municipalities and state authorities resulting from COVID-19 (House, No. 4598), which was read.

COVID-19,—government challenges.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of the same member, the bill was read a second time forthwith; and it was ordered to a third reading.

Under suspension of the rules, on further motion of Mr. Michlewitz, the bill, was read a third time; and it was passed to be engrossed. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Order.

On motion of Mr. DeLeo of Winthrop,—

Ordered, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Monday next at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next sitting.

At five minutes after three o'clock P.M., on motion of Mr. Vieira of Falmouth (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Monday at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.